

Considering Previous Experience, Discussing Slovak Priorities

Brainstorming Meeting of Slovak OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Civil Society,
OSCE and Centre for OSCE Research representatives
Bratislava, 8 November 2017

Organization for security and cooperation (OSCE) remains one of the cornerstones of the European security in broader as well as narrow sense. The OSCE is rich in its different instruments and institutions that together form a comprehensive approach to security in three dimensions – politico-military, economic and environmental, and human. Different OSCE participating State holds the Chairmanship of the organization for one calendar year. There are several issues the Chairmanship is tasked to follow, however, it also has a lot of room to enhance the work of the Organization through diplomatic means.

In 2019, OSCE Chairmanship will be upholding by Slovak republic. Hence, 8 November 2017 the Slovak Foreign Policy Association organized a workshop **“Considering Previous Experience, Discussing Slovak Priorities: Brainstorming Meeting of Slovak OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Civil Society, OSCE and Centre for OSCE Research representatives”** in partnership with *Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs* and *Friedrich Eber Stiftung* and with kind support of the representatives from the *Centre for OSCE Research (CORE)*.

Main aim of the workshop was to share the experience from previous Chairmanships both from technical as well as contentual side. Secondly, it was designed to explain the space for cooperation between the OSCE as such, this time represented by OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and OSCE Office of the Secretary General and the Chairmanship. Finally, it offered space to discuss some of the possible priorities of the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship.

The possible discussed priorities included, in the first dimension, security sector reform (security sector governance), situation in Ukraine, enhancing the OSCE conflict cycle, possible progress in arms control; in second dimension energy efficiency and other

energy-related issues have been discussed; violent extremism and radicalism that could lead to terrorism was discussed within the third dimension. Naturally, in accordance to the theoretical approach to comprehensive security and practical approach of the OSCE as such, it is important to link these priorities to all three dimensions, having in mind the overall goal – to enhance mutual confidence among the participating States and bring transparency back to the region from Vancouver to Vladivostok.